

BHAGAVAD GITA

CHAPTER 1

ARJUNA VISHADA YOGA

(The Yoga of the Despondency of Arjuna)

47 Verses

धृतराष्ट्र उवाच ।
धर्मक्षेत्रे कुरुक्षेत्रे
समवेता युयुत्सवः ।
मामकाः पाण्डवाश्चेव
किमकुर्वत सञ्जय ॥ १-१॥ dhṛtarāṣṭra uvāca
dharmākṣetre kurukṣetre
samavetā yuyutsavaḥ|
māmakāḥ pāṇḍavāścaiva
kimakurvata sañjaya ||1-1||

Dhrtarastra said : O Sanjaya! What did my people and Pandavas do after having assembled in the holy land of Kuruksetra, eager to fight the battle?[Chapter 1 - Verse 1]

Chapter 1 - Verse 2

सञ्जय उवाच । sañjaya uvāca
हष्ट्वा तु पाण्डवानीकं dṛṣṭvā tu pāṇḍavānīkaṁ
व्यूढं दुर्योधनस्तदा । vyūḍhaṁ duryodhanastadā|
आचार्यमुपसङ्गम्य ācāryam upasaṅgamya
राजा वचनमब्रवीत् ॥ १-२॥ rājā vacanam abravīt ||1-2||

Sanjaya said: Having seen the army of the Pandavas drawn up in battle array, King Duryodhana then approached his teacher (Drona) and spoke these words. [Chapter 1 - Verse 2]

paśyaitām pāņduputrāņām

पश्यैतां पाण्डुपुत्राणाम आचार्य महतीं चमूम्। ācārya mahatīm camūm व्यूढां द्रुपदपुत्रेण vyūdhām drupadaputreņa तव शिष्येण धीमता ॥ १-३॥ tava śisyena dhimata | 1-3 | 1 Behold, O Teacher! This mighty army of the sons of Pandu arrayed by the son of Drupada, thy wise disciple. [Chapter 1 - Verse 3]

Chapter 1 - Verse 4

अत्र शूरा महेष्वासाः atra śūrā maheşvāsāḥ bhīmārjunasamā yudhi | भीमार्जुनसमा युधि। युयुधानो विराटश्च yuyudhāno virāţaśca drupadaśca mahārathah ||1-4|| द्रपदश्च महारथः ॥

Here are heroes, mighty archers like Yuyudhana, Virata and Drupada, who are equal in battle to Bhima and Arjuna, each commanding eleven thousand archers. [Chapter 1 - Verse 4]

dhṛṣṭaketuścekitānaḥ

kāśirājaśca vīryavān |

purujit kuntibhojaśca

saubhadro draupadeyāśca

sarva eva mahārathāḥ | | 1-6 | |

धृष्टकेतुश्चेकितानः

सौभद्रो द्रौपदेयाश्च

सर्व एव महारथाः ॥ १-६॥

काशिराजश्च वीर्यवान्।

पुरुजित्कुन्तिभोजश्च

The strong Yudhamanyu and the brave Uttamauja, the son of Subhadra and the sons of Draupadi, all of them, divisional commanders. [Chapter 1 - Verse 6]

अस्माकं तु विशिष्टा ये तान्निबोध द्विजोत्तम । नायका मम सैन्यस्य

संज्ञार्थं तान्बवीमि ते ॥ १-७॥

[Chapter 1 - Verse 7]

asmākam tu viśistā ye tānnibodha dvijottama

> nāyakā mama sainyasya samjñārtham tān bravīmi te | |1-7||

Know also, O best among the twice-born, the names of those who are the most distinguished amongst ourselves, the leaders of my army; these I name to thee for thy information.

bhavān bhīsmaśca karņaśca

Chapter 1 - Verse 8

भवान्भीष्मश्च कर्णश्च कृपश्च समितिञ्जयः। अश्वत्थामा विकर्णश्च सौमदत्तिस्तथैव च ॥ १-८॥

kṛpaśca samitiñjayaḥ | aśvatthāmā vikarņaśca saumadattistathaiva ca | |1-8||

Yourself and bhisma, and karna and also Krpa, the victorious in war; Asvatthama, Vikarna and so also Bhurisrava, the son of Somadatta. [Chapter 1 - Verse 8]

anye ca bahavaḥ śūrāh

अन्ये च बहवः शूराः madarthe tyaktajīvitāh मदर्थे त्यक्तजीविताः। nānāśastrapraharaņāḥ नानाशस्त्रप्रहरणाः sarve yuddhaviśāradāḥ | | 1-9 | | सर्वे युद्धविशारदाः ॥ १-९॥ And many other heroes, who are determined to give up their lives for my sake, armed with various weapons and missiles, all well-skilled in battle. [Chapter 1 - Verse 9]

Chapter 1 - Verse 10

अपर्याप्तं तदस्माकं aparyāptam tadasmākam बलं भीष्माभिरक्षितम्। balam bhīşmābhirakşitam पर्याप्तं त्विदमेतेषां paryāptam tvidameteşām बलं भीमाभिरक्षितम् ॥ १-१०॥ balam bhīmābhirakşitam | 1-10 | |

This army of ours, defended by Bhisma is insufficient, whereas, that army of theirs defended by Bhima is sufficient. [or] This army of ours protected by Bhisma is unlimited, whereas, that army of theirs protected by Bhima is limited. [Chapter 1 - Verse 10]

अयनेषु च सर्वेषु
यथाभागमवस्थिताः । yathābhāgam avasthitāḥ |
भीष्ममेवाभिरक्षन्तु bhīṣmam evābhirakṣantu
भवन्तः सर्व एव हि ॥ १-११॥ bhavantaḥ sarva eva hi ||1-11||

Therefore, do you all, stationed in your respective positions in the several divisions of the army, protect Bhisma alone. [Chapter 1 - Verse 11]

Chapter 1 - Verse 12

तस्य सञ्जनयन्हर्षं tasya sañjanayan harṣami kuruvṛddhaḥ pitāmahaḥ | simhanādam vinadyoccaiḥ saṅkham dadhmau pratāpavān ||1-12||

His glorious grandsire (Bhisma), the oldest of the Kauravas, in order to cheer Duryodhana, now sounded aloud a lion's roar and blew his conch.[Chapter 1 - Verse 12]

tatah sankhāsca bheryasca

paņavānakagomukhāḥ | पणवानकगोमुखाः। sahasaivābhyahanyanta सहसेवाभ्यहन्यन्त स शब्दस्तुमुलोऽभवत् ॥ १-१३॥ sa śabdastumulo'bhavat | | 1-13 | | Then (following Bhisma), conches and kettle-drums, tabors, drums and cow-horns blared forth quite suddenly and the sound was tremendous. [Chapter 1 - Verse 13]

Chapter 1 - Verse 14

ततः राङ्खाश्च भेर्यश्च

ततः श्वेतैर्हयैर्युक्ते tatah śvetairhayairyukte महति स्यन्दने स्थितौ । mahati syandane sthitau माधवः पाण्डवश्चेव mādhavah pāndavaścaiva दिव्यौ शङ्घौ प्रदध्मतुः ॥ १-१४॥ divyau śankhau pradadhmatuh | | 1-14 | |

Then, also Madhava and the son of Pandu, seated in their magnificent chariot yoked with white horses, blew their divine conches. [Chapter 1 - Verse 14]

pāñcajanyam hṛṣīkeśah

nakulah sahadevaśca

devadattam dhananjayah |

paundram dadhmau mahāśankham

sughoşamanipuşpakau | 1-16 | |

bhīmakarmā vrkodarah | 1-15 | |

पाञ्चजन्यं हृषीकेशः

पौण्डुं दध्मो महाशङ्खं

भीमकर्मा वृकोद्रः ॥ १-१५॥

सुघोषमणिपुष्पकौ ॥ १-१६॥

Sughosa and the Manipuspaka. [Chapter 1 – Verse 16]

देवदत्तं धनञ्जयः।

नकुलः सहदेवश्च

Hrsikesa blew the Panchajanya and Dhananjaya (Arjuna) blew the Devadatta and Vrkodara (Bhima), the doer of terrible deeds, blew the great conch, named Paundra. [Chapter1 - Verse 15]

Chapter 1 - Verse 16

अनन्तविजयं राजा
कुन्तीपुत्रो युधिष्ठिरः ।

kuntīputro yudhiṣṭhiraḥ |

King Yudhisthira, the son of Kunti, blew the Anantavijaya; Nakula and Sahadeva blew the

kāśyaśca parameşvāsaḥ

śikhandī ca mahārathah |

काश्यश्च परमेष्वासः

शिखण्डी च महारथः।

धृष्टद्युम्नो विराटश्च dhṛṣṭadyumno virāṭaśca सात्यिकश्चापराजितः ॥ १-१७॥ sātyakiścāparājitaḥ | | 1 - 17 | | The king of Kasi, an excellent archer, Sikhandi, the mighty commander of eleven thousand archers, Dhrstadyumna and Virata and Satyaki, the unconquered; [Chapter 1 – Verse 17] **Chapter 1 - Verse 18** द्रुपदो द्रौपदेयाश्च drupado draupadeyāśca सर्वशः पृथिवीपते । sarvaśah prthivipate | सौभद्रश्च महाबाहुः saubhadraśca mahābāhuḥ

राह्वान्द्ध्मः पृथक्पृथक् ॥ १-१८॥ sankhān dadhmuḥ pṛthak pṛthak ||1-18||
Oh king! The king of Kasi who is the wielder of a big bow, the great warrior Sikhandi, Dhrstadyumna, the king of Virata, the unsurpassed Satyaki, king Drupada, the sons of Draupadi, and the mighty Abhimanyu who is the son of Subhadra blew the conches distinctly from all directions.[Chapter 1 – Verse 18]

sa ghoșo dhārtarāṣṭrāṇām

hṛdayāni vyadārayat |

hṛṣīkeśam tadā vākyam

idam āha mahīpate ||

nabhaśca prthivim caiva

tumulo vyanunādayan | | 1 - 19 | |

dhanurudyamya pāṇḍavaḥ | | 1 - 20 | |

स घोषो धार्तराष्ट्राणां

हृद्यानि व्यदारयत् ।

तुमुलोऽभ्यनुनादयन् ॥ १-१९॥

धनुरुद्यम्य पाण्डवः॥ १-२०॥

हृषीकेशं तदा वाक्यमि

इदमाह महीपते।

नभश्च पृथिवीं चैव

Then, seeing the people of Dhrtarastra's party standing arrayed and the discharge of weapons about to begin, Arjuna, the son of Pandu, whose ensign was a monkey, took up his bow and said these words to Krsna (Hrsikesa), O Lord of the earth![Chapter 1 – Verse 20]

Chapter 1 - Verse 21 and 22

अर्ज़न उवाच । सेनयोरुभयोर्मध्ये रथं स्थापय मेऽच्युत ॥ १-२१॥ यावदेतान्निरीक्षेऽहं योद्धकामानवस्थितान्। कैर्मया सह योद्धव्यम् अस्मिन् रणसमुद्यमे ॥ १-२२॥

Senayor ubhayor madhye
ratham stapaya me'chyuta || 1-21 ||
yāvadētānnirīkṣe'haṁ
yoddhukāmānavasthitān|
kairmayā saha yōddhavyam
asmin raṇasamudyame || 1-22 ||

Arjuna said : In the midst of the two armies, place my chariot, O Achyuta, that I may behold those who stand here desirous of fighting and, on the eve of this battle, let me know with whom I must fight. [Chapter 1 - Verse 21 and 22]

योत्स्यमानानवेक्षेऽहं य एतेऽत्र समागताः । धार्तराष्ट्रस्य दुर्बुद्धेर्युद्धेः

प्रियचिकीर्षवः ॥ १-२३॥

yuddhe priyacikīrşavah | | 1-23 | |

dhārtarāṣṭrasya durbuddheh

yotsyamānān avekşe'ham

ya ete'tra samāgatāḥ |

For, I desire to observe those who are assembled here for the fight, wishing to please, in battle, the evil-minded sons of Dhrtarastra. [Chapter 1 - Verse 23]

Chapter 1 - Verse 24

सञ्जय उवाच। एवमुक्तो हृषीकेशः

गुडाकेशेन भारत ।

सेनयोरुभयोर्मध्ये

स्थापयित्वा रथोत्तमम् ॥ १-२४॥

gudākešena bhārata | senayorubhayormadhye

evamukto hṛṣīkeśah

sañjaya uvāca

sthāpayitvā rathottamam | |1-24||

Sanjaya said: Thus, addressed by Gudakesa, O Bharata (here meaning Dhrtarastra), Hrsikesa, having stationed the best of chariots between the two armies...[Chapter 1 - Verse 24]

भीष्मद्रोणप्रमुखतः bhīşmadronapramukhatah सर्वेषां च महीक्षिताम्। sarveṣām ca mahīkṣitām | उवाच पार्थ पश्यैतान्। uvāca pārtha paśyaitān समवेतान्कुरूनिति ॥ १-२५॥ samavetān kurūniti | 1-25 | | In front of Bhisma and Drona, and all the rulers of the earth, the Lord said, "O Partha, behold these Kurusa gathered together. [Chapter 1 - Verse 25]

Chapter 1 - Verse 26

तत्रापश्यतिस्थतान्पार्थः पितृनथ पितामहान् ।

tatrāpaśyat sthitān pārthaḥ pitṛnatha pitāmahān |

putrān pautrān sakhīmstathā | 1-26 | 1

ācāryān mātulān bhrātṛn

Then, Partha saw stationed there in both the armies, fathers, grandfathers, teachers, maternal uncles, brothers, sons, grandsons and friends too. [Chapter 1 - Verse 26]

श्वशुरान्सुहृदश्चैव सेनयोरुभयोरिप । तान्समीक्ष्य स कौन्तेयः सर्वान्बन्धूनवस्थितान् ॥ १-२७॥ कृपया परयाविष्ट विषीदन्निदमब्रवीत् ॥ १-२८॥

śvaśurān suhrdaścaiva
senayorubhayorapi |
tān samīkṣya sa kaunteyaḥ
sarvān bandhūnavasthitān | | 1 - 27 | |
kṛpayā parayāviṣṭah
viṣīdannidam abravīt | | 1 - 28 | |

(he saw) Fathers-in-law and friends also in both the armies. Then the son of Kunti, seeing all these kinsmen thus standing arrayed, spoke thus sorrowfully, filled with deep pity. [Chapter 1 - Verse 27]

अर्जुन उवाच । दृष्ट्वेमं स्वजनं कृष्ण युयुत्सुं समुपस्थितम् ॥ १-२८॥

arjuna uvāca | dṛṣṭvemam svajanam kṛṣṇa yuyutsum samupasthitam ||1-28||

Arjuna said: Seeing these my kinsmen, O Krsna, arrayed, eager to fight...[Chapter 1 - Verse 28]

Chapter 1 - Verse 29

सीदन्ति मम गात्राणि मुखं च परिशुष्यति । वेपथुश्च शरीरे मे रोमहर्षश्च जायते ॥ १-२९॥

sīdanti mama gātrāņi
mukham ca parišuşyati |
vepathuśca śarīre me
romaharṣaśca jāyate ||1-29||

My limbs fail and my mouth is parched, my body quivers and my hair stands on end... [Chapter 1 - Verse 29]

gāṇḍīvam stramsate hastāt

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गाण्डीवं स्रंसते हस्तत त्त्वकैव परिद्द्यते। tvakcaiva paridahyate न च राक्रोम्यवस्थातुं na ca śaknomyavasthātum भ्रमतीव च मे मनः ॥ १-३०॥ bhrāmatīva ca me manah | | 1-30 | | The Gandiva-bow slips from my hand and my skin burns all over; I am also unable to stand and my mind is whirling round, as it were....[Chapter 1 - Verse 30]

battle...[Chapter 1 – Verse 31]

Chapter 1 - Verse 31

निमित्तानि च पश्यामि	nimittāni ca paśyāmi
विपरीतानि केशव ।	viparītāni keśava
न च श्रेयोऽनुपश्यामि	na ca śreyo'nupaśyāmi
हत्वा स्वजनमाहवे ॥ १-३१॥	hatvā khajanamāhave 1-31
And I see adverse omens, O Kesava. Nor do I see any good, in killing my kinsmen in	

न काङ्क्षे विजयं कृष्ण na kānkṣe vijayam kṛṣṇā न च राज्यं सुखानि च। na ca rājyam sukhāni ca | किं नो राज्येन गोविन्द किं भोगेर्जीवितेन वा ॥ १-३२॥ For, I desire not victory, O Krsna, nor kingdom, nor pleasures. Of what avail is dominion to us, O

kim no rājyena govinda kim bhogairjīvitena vā | |1-32 | | Govinda? Of what avail are pleasures or even life itself?...[Chapter 1 - Verse 32]

Chapter 1 - Verse 33

येषामर्थे काङ्कितं नः राज्यं भोगाः सुखानि च। त इमेऽवस्थिता युद्धे प्राणांस्त्यक्तवा धनानि च ॥ १-३३॥

yeşāmarthe kānkşitam nah rājyam bhogāh sukhāni ca | ta ime'vasthitā yuddhe

prāņāmstyaktvā dhanāni ca | |1-33 | |

They, for whose sake we desire kingdom, enjoyment and pleasures, stand here in battle, having renounced life and wealth...[Chapter 1 - Verse 33]

ācāryāḥ pitaraḥ putrāh

tathaiva ca pitāmahāḥ |

api trailokyarājyasya

hetoh kim nu mahīkrte | |1-35 | |

mātulāha śvaśurāh pautrāh

आचार्याः पितरः पुत्राः

तथैव च पितामहाः।

मातुलाः श्वशुराः पौत्राः

अपि त्रैलोक्यराज्यस्य

हेतोः किं नु महीकृते ॥ १-३५॥

इयालाः सम्बन्धिनस्तथा ॥ १-३४॥śyālāḥ saṁbandhinastathā ||1-34||Teachers, fathers, sons and also grandfathers, maternal uncles, fathers-in-law, grandsons, brothers-in-law and other relatives...[Chapter 1 - Verse 34]Chapter 1 - Verse 35एतान्न हन्तुमिच्छामि
म्रतोऽपि मधुसूदन ।etān na hantum icchāmi
ghnato'pi madhusūdana |

These, I do not wish to kill, though they may kill me, O Madhusudana, even for the sake of domination over the three worlds; how much less for the sake of the earth. [Chapter 1 - Verse 35]

निहत्य धार्तराष्ट्रान्नः का प्रीतिः स्याज्जनार्दन । पापमेवाश्रयेदस्मान् हत्वैतानाततायिनः ॥ १-३६॥

kā prītiķ syājjanārdana | pāpamevaśrayed asmān hatvaitān ātatāyinaḥ | |1-36 | |

nihatya dhārtarāṣṭrān naḥ

Killing these sons of Dhrtarastra, what pleasure can be ours, O Janardana? Sin alone will be our gain by killing these felons. [Chapter 1 - Verse 36]

Chapter 1 - Verse 37

तस्मान्नाही वयं हन्तुं धार्तराष्ट्रान्स्वबान्धवान् । स्वजनं हि कथं हत्वा खेनः स्याम माधव ॥ १-३७॥ tasmānnarhā vayam hantum dhārtarāṣṭrān svabāndhavān |

sukhinaḥ syāma mādhava | |1-37||

svajanam hi katham hatvā

Therefore, we shall not kill sons of Dhrtarastra, our relatives; for how can we be happy by killing our own people, O Madhava? [Chapter 1 - Verse 37]

yadyapyete na paśyanti

katham na jñeyamasmābhih

लोभोपहतचेतसः ।
कुलक्षयकृतं दोषं

स्पित्रद्वोहं च पातकम् ॥ १-३८॥ mitradrohe ca pātakam ||1-38||

Though these, with their intelligence clouded by greed, see no evil in the destruction of the families in the society and no sin in their cruelty to friends... [Chapter 1 - Verse 38]

Chapter 1 - Verse 39

यद्यप्येते न पश्यन्ति

कथं न ज्ञेयमस्माभिः

पापादस्मान्निवर्तितुम् । pāpād asmānnivartitum | कुलक्षयकृतं दोषं kulakṣayakṛtaṁ doṣaṁ प्रपश्यद्भिर्जनार्दन ॥ १-३९॥ prapaśyadbhirjanārdana ||1-39||

Why should not we, who clearly see evil in the destruction of the family units, learn to turn away from this sin, O Janardana? [Chapter 1 - Verse 39]

कुलक्षये प्रणश्यन्ति kulakṣaye praṇaśyanti
कुलधर्माः सनातनाः । kuladharmāḥ sanātanāḥ |
धर्मे नष्टे कुलं कृत्स्त्रम् dharme naṣṭe kulaṁ kṛtsnam
अधर्मोऽभिभवत्युत ॥ १-४०॥ adharmo'bhibhavatyuta ||1-40||
In the destruction of a family, the immemorial religious rites of that family perish; on the destruction of spirituality, impiety indeed overcomes the whole family. [Chapter 1 - Verse 40]

Chapter 1 - Verse 41

अधर्माभिभवात्कृष्ण adharmābhibhavāt kṛṣṇa प्रदुष्यन्ति कुलस्त्रियः । praduṣyanti kulastriyaḥ | strīṣu duṣṭāsu vārṣṇeya जायते वर्णसङ्करः ॥ १-४१॥ jāyate varṇasaṅkaraḥ ||1-41||

By the prevalence of impiety, O Krsna, the women of the family become corrupt; and women being corrupted, O descendent of the Vrsni clan, there arises intermingling of castes (varnasankara). [Chapter 1 - Verse 41]

Chapter 1 - Verse 42

सङ्करो नरकायैव sankaro narakāyaiva कुलघ्वानां कुलस्य च । kulaghnānām kulasya ca | पतन्ति पितरो ह्येषां patanti pitaro hyeşām लुप्तपिण्डोदकिकयाः ॥ १-४२॥ luptapindodakakriyāḥ ||1-42 || Confusion of caste leads the slayer of the family to hell; for their forefathers fall, deprived of the offerings of pinda (rice ball) and water (libations). [Chapter 1 - Verse 42]

Chapter 1 - Verse 43

doşairetaih kulaghnānām

varnasankarakārakaih |

वर्णसङ्करकारकैः। उत्साद्यन्ते जातिधर्माः utsādyante jātidharmāh कुलधर्माश्च शाश्वताः ॥ १-४३॥ kuladharmāśca śāśvatāḥ | 1-43 | | By these evil deeds of the destroyers of the family, which cause confusion of castes, the

eternal religious rites of the caste and the family are destroyed. [Chapter 1 - Verse 43]

दोषेरेतैः कुलघ्वानां

उत्सन्नकुलधर्माणां utsannakuladharmāṇāmं मनुष्याणां जनार्दन । manuṣyāṇām janārdana | narake niyatam vāsah भवतीत्यनुशुश्रुम ॥ १-४४॥ bhavatītyanuśuśruma ||1-44||

We have heard, O Janardana, that it is inevitable for those men, in whose families the religious practices have been destroyed, to dwell in hell for a unknown period of time. [Chapter 1 - Verse 44]

Chapter 1 - Verse 45

अहो बत महत्पापं
कर्तुं व्यवसिता वयम् ।
यद्राज्यसुखलोभेन
हन्तुं स्वजनमुद्यताः ॥ १-४५॥ hantum svajanam udyatāḥ||1-45||

Alas! We are involved in a great sin, in that we are prepared to kill our kinsmen, from greed for the pleasures of the kingdom.[Chapter 1 - Verse 45]

yadi māmapratīkāram

अशस्त्रं शस्त्रपाणयः ।
धार्तराष्ट्रा रणे हन्युः
तन्मे क्षेमतरं भवेत् ॥ १-४६॥ tanme kṣemataraṁ bhavet ||1-46||

If the sons of Dhrtarastra, weapons in hand, slay me in battle, unresisting and unarmed, that would be better for me.[Chapter 1 - Verse 46]

Chapter 1 - Verse 47

यदि मामप्रतीकारम्

[Chapter 1 - Verse 47]

सञ्जय उवाच ।

एवमुक्तवार्जुनः सञ्चे

रथोपस्थ उपाविद्यत् ।

विसृज्य सद्यारं चापं

शोकसंविग्नमानसः ॥ १-४७॥ sañjaya uvāca |
evamuktvā'rjunaḥ saṅkhye
rathopastha upāviśat |
visṛjya saśaraṁ cāpaṁ
śokasaṁvignamānasaḥ||1-47||
Sanjaya said : Having thus spoken in the midst of the battlefield, Arjuna sat down on the seat

of the chariot, casting away his bow and arrow, with a mind distressed with sorrow.